

Dear Half-Mast,

Soldiers are stepping on the radiator fins in their HMMWs and bending them. I think they should put "NO STEP" signs on HMMWs, like those found on helicopters. How about you?

SSG N.O.

Dear Sergeant N.O.,

"NO STEP" signs are a great idea! That's because the fins on your HMMWV's radiator and oil cooler protect your HMMWV's engine and transmission from overheating.

Without protection, the fins can bend during PMCS and repair work. And when enough of the fins are bent, the reduced air flow through the radiator and cooler leads to engine and transmission overheating.

So another good idea is to make a fin shield to keep the fins on your HMMWV's radiator straight!

Making the Fin Shield

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Fabricate a fin shield by cutting ³/₄-in plywood using these approximate dimensions:

PS 732

Adjust the dimensions to fit your HMMWV. Then, round off the edges and paint the board to prevent splinters. And be sure to stencil NO STEP on the board.

You'll also see this info on Page D-52 of TM 9-2320-280-20-3 and Page D-26 of TM 9-2320-387-24-2.

3'101/2"

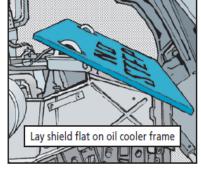
NO STEP

NOV 13

Using the Fin Shield

Once you've made a fin shield, you can use it right away. Just remove both plate covers and seals from the airlift backets. and slip it over the two lifting rings. Then lay it flat on the oil cooler frame. The rings prevent the shield from sliding onto the raised hood.

Don't run the engine with the shield in place! It'll block air flow and lead to engine overheating—the very thing your shield is designed to help prevent!



After using your fin shield, replace the eye-hook seals. And even though the board should protect the fins against bending, check for bent fins anyway. Then use the fin-straightening tool, NSN 5120-00-157-2180, if needed.

Storing the Fin Shield

Take care of the fin shield by storing it flat. That keeps it from warping. Lay it on the floor away from traffic areas, or hang it on the wall against a flat surface.

